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CLAIMS

1.   A method for detecting a watermark in content, comprising the steps of:

utilizing only a subset of candidate counter watermark detection techniques for each time interval from a set of available counter watermark detection techniques; and

searching for a watermark utilizing one or more of said subset of candidate counter watermark detection techniques.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein only a second subset of said available counter watermark detection techniques is implemented in a given watermark detector.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein a given watermark detector is provided said subset of available counter watermark detection techniques from a larger pool of available counter watermark detection techniques.

4.   The method of claim 2, wherein said first and second subsets of said pool of counter watermark detection techniques are the same.

5.   The method of claim 1, wherein said selected counter watermark detection technique is selected randomly from said first subset of a pool of counter watermark detection techniques.

6.   The method of claim 1, wherein said steps are repeated until a watermark is detected or all counter watermark detection techniques have been executed.

7.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of disabling content access if a corrupted watermark is detected.

8.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of enabling content access if a valid watermark is detected.

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9.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of enabling content access if no watermark has been found after all available counter watermark detection techniques have been executed.

10.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of restarting said search for a watermark at a beginning of each of said time intervals.

11.   The method of claim 1, wherein said subset of a pool of counter watermark detection techniques is selected randomly from all available counter watermark detection techniques.

12.   The method of claim 2, wherein said second subset of a pool of counter watermark detection techniques is selected randomly from the first subset of a pool of counter watermark detection techniques.

13.   A method for detecting a watermark in content, comprising the steps of:
        randomly selecting a counter watermark detection technique from a set of available counter watermark detection techniques; and
        searching for a watermark utilizing said selected counter watermark detection technique.

14.   The method of claim 13, wherein only a subset of said available counter watermark detection techniques is implemented in a given watermark detector.

15.   The method of claim 13, wherein a given watermark detector is provided a subset of available counter watermark detection techniques from a larger pool of available counter watermark detection techniques.

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16.   The method of claim 13, wherein said set of counter watermark detection techniques is selected randomly from all available counter watermark detection techniques.

17.   The method of claim 14, wherein said subset of counter watermark detection techniques is selected randomly from the set of counter watermark detection techniques.

18.   The method of claim 13, wherein said steps are repeated until a watermark is detected or all counter watermark detection techniques have been executed.

19.   A system for detecting a watermark in content, comprising:
           a memory; and
           at least one processor, coupled to the memory, operative to:
           utilize only a subset of candidate counter watermark detection techniques for each time interval from a set of available counter watermark detection techniques; and
           search for a watermark utilizing one or more of said subset of candidate counter watermark detection techniques.

20.   A system for detecting a watermark in content, comprising the steps of:
           a memory; and
           at least one processor, coupled to the memory, operative to:
           randomly select a counter watermark detection technique from a set of available counter watermark detection techniques; and
           search for a watermark utilizing said selected counter watermark detection technique.